

I Claim:

1. A cleaning apparatus to clean an udder of a cow when the cow is at a cleaning location where the cleaning apparatus comprises:

5 a mounting structure;

a cleaning section mounted to the mounting structure and having a cleaning fluid dispensing portion to dispense cleaning fluid against the cow's udder, and movable from a cleaning position to a retracted position;

10 an actuating mechanism to move the cleaning section into its cleaning position to dispense cleaning fluid and back to the retracted position.

2. The cleaning apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:

15 a sensing system that is adapted to detect if a cow is in the cleaning location.

3. The cleaning apparatus of claim 1 further comprising:

20 a control system that can activate the actuator to move the cleaning section into a cleaning position and dispense cleaning fluid and further activate the actuator to move the cleaning section to the retracted position.

4. The cleaning apparatus of claim 2 further comprising:

25 a control system that can activate the actuator to move the cleaning section into a cleaning position and dispense cleaning fluid and further activate the actuator to move the cleaning section to the retracted position.

5. The cleaning apparatus of claim 4 further comprising:

where the control system receives signals from the sensing system when the sensing system detects that a cow is in the cleaning position and the control system activates the actuator to move the cleaning section into a cleaning position and dispense cleaning fluid.

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6. In a milking parlor having a plurality of milking stalls arranged to move through stations in a milking cycle when the stalls move through a milk extracting section where milking machines extract milk, through a post milking section and to an exit location, an udder cleaning apparatus positioned at a cleaning location intermediate the milk extracting location and the exit location, said cleaning apparatus comprising:

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a mounting structure

a cleaning section having a cleaning fluid dispensing portion and being moveable between a cleaning position where the cleaning fluid dispensing portion is able to discharge cleaning fluid to clean the cow's udder and a retracted position;

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an actuating mechanism to move the cleaning section into its cleaning position to dispense cleaning fluid and back to the retracted position.

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7. The cleaning apparatus of claim 6 further comprising:

a sensing system that is adapted to detect if a cow is in the cleaning location.

- 25 8. The cleaning apparatus of claim 6 further comprising:

a control system that can activate the actuator to move the cleaning section into a cleaning position and dispense cleaning fluid and further activate the actuator to move the cleaning section to the retracted position.

- 5 9. The cleaning apparatus of claim 7 further comprising:

a control system that can activate the actuator to move the cleaning section into a cleaning position and dispense cleaning fluid and further activate the actuator to move the cleaning section to the retracted position.

- 10 10. The cleaning apparatus of claim 9 further comprising:

where the control system receives signals from the sensing system when the sensing system detects that a cow is in the cleaning position and the control system activates the actuator to move the cleaning section into a cleaning position and dispense cleaning fluid.

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11. A cow udder cleaning apparatus for cleaning a cow at a cleaning location where the cow udder cleaning apparatus comprises:

a mounting structure,

a positioning system mounted on said mounting structure and comprising an extension arm and an actuator, said extension arm having a path of travel that is adapted to extend said extension arm underneath the udder of the cow in said cleaning location where the path of travel has a cleaning position and a retracted position,

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a dispersion portion located on said extension arm, the dispersion portion is adapted to spray disinfectant in an upward direction on the cow's udder,

5 a sensor system that is adapted to detect if the cow is in the cleaning location,

a control unit comprising a timer and logic sequence where upon receiving a signal from the sensor system, will activate the said actuator which will bias said extension arm to extend in said path of travel to the cleaning position, said control unit further having the functionality of activating said dispersion portion to spray disinfectant in an upward direction on the cow's udder.

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12. The cow udder cleaning apparatus as recited in claim 11 whereas;

15 the path of travel is positioned between a front leg and a hind leg of the cow.

13. The cow udder cleaning apparatus as recited in claim 11 whereas;

the path of travel is positioned between the hind legs of the cow.

14. The cow udder cleaning apparatus as recited in claim 11 further having;

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the sensor system comprises a first sensor and a second sensor;

whereas the first sensor detects the position of a stall and the second sensor detects the presence of a cow in the stall.

25 15. The cow udder cleaning apparatus as recited in claim 11 further having:

the sensor system comprises an optical sensor that is adapted to detect the presence of a cow in the stall.

16. The cow udder cleaning apparatus has recited in claim 14 further having:

5 where the first sensor detects rotation of a platform where cows are standing thereon.

17. The cow udder cleaning apparatus has recited in claim 14 further having;

10 where the second sensor detects the presence of a cow in a stall when the cow is in the cleaning position.

18. The cow udder cleaning apparatus has recited in claim 16 further having;

 where the second sensor detects the presence of a cow in a stall when the cow is in the cleaning position.

15 19. A method of dispersing material on a cow's udder when the cow is in a operating location whereas;

 a material dispersing apparatus is employed that comprises a mounting structure, an actuating mechanism and an extension arm, where the extension arm is mounted to the
20 mounting structure and the actuating mechanism positions the extension arm in a dispersion position and a retracted position, the extension arm has a dispersion portion which is adapted to deliver material in an upward direction;

25 the actuating mechanism positions the extension arm to the dispersion position and material is dispersed from the

the actuating mechanism positions the extension arm to a retracted position;

COW.

all
AI

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